

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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USIA-06 L-03 OIC-02 PA-01 PRS-01 DHA-02 EB-07 ACDA-07

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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 831

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 3390

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, UNESCO, CA

SUBJ: DRAFT DECLARATION ON FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES GOVERNING  
THE USE OF THE MASS MEDIA IN STRENGTHENING PEACE AND INTERNA-  
TIONAL UNDERSTANDING AND IN COMBATING WAR PROPAGANDA, RACISM  
AND APARTHEID

REF: A. STATE 188615 B. STATE 147961 C. STATE 125614

1. SUMMARY. GOC SHARES U.S. OBJECTIONS TO DRAFT  
DECLARATION AND WILL SOON REQUEST THAT ITS UNESCO DEL CONSULT  
WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF THE INFORMATION GROUP ON THE SUBJECT.  
GOC WOULD BE INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE OF EXACT TACTICS  
U.S. HAS IN MIND RE PREVENTING GC CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT  
DECLARATION TEXT. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBOFF AUGUST 23 MADE REQUESTED APPROACH (REF A) TO  
ROBERTSON, DIRECTOR, U.S. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS DIVISION,  
EXTAFF. APPROACH WAS TIMELY SINCE ROBERTSON NOTED THAT EXTAFF  
HAD TELEGRAM READY TO GO TO CANADIAN DEL UNESCO REQUESTING  
A STATUS REPORT AND DIRECTING THE CANADIAN DEL TO CONSULT WITH  
OTHER MEMBERS RE A COMMON POSITION. ROBERTSON MADE FOLLOWING  
FURTHER POINTS.

3. GOC IS UNSURE OF PRECISELY WHAT TACTICS THE U.S. HAS IN  
MIND TO PREVENT GC CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT  
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DECLARATION TEXT. EMBOFF, IN THIS CONNECTION, POINTED

OUT THAT CONCERNED GOVERNMENTS WOULD BRING TO ATTENTION OF UNESCO DIRECTOR GENERAL M'BOW DESIRE FOR GC POST-PONEMENT OF CONSIDERATION. EMBOFF ALSO MENTIONED POSSIBILITY OF ADDITIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXPERTS' MEETING SUGGESTED IN PARA 4, REF B. EMBOFF DID NOT, HOWEVER, GET INTO DETAILED DISCUSSIONS OF THESE POINTS PURSUANT TO SUGGESTION IN PARA 7 REF A. EVEN WITH POINTS EMBOFF MADE IN THIS REGARD, ROBERTSON EXPRESSED INTEREST IN ANY FURTHER THINKING THE U.S. MIGHT HAVE ON TACTICS FOR DEFERRAL.

4. CANADIAN OBJECTIONS TO DRAFT DECLARATION PARALLEL THOSE OUTLINED IN PARA 5 REF C. CANADIANS FIND UNACCEPTABLE PREAMBLE PARA 5 RE ZIONISM/RACISM AND ALSO OBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLES X AND XII REGARDING THE STATE CONTROL OF CONTENT OF MASS MEDIA. FINALLY, THEY FIND ARTICLE VIII "SLANTED" SINCE IT DOES NOT, FOR EXAMPLE, DEAL WITH SUBJECTS SUCH AS POLITICAL PRISONERS.

5. ROBERTSON RAISED SUBJECT OF GERMAN TEXT BUT DID NOT EXPAND ON THIS BEYOND SAYING THAT IT WAS "TURGID" IN HIS OPINION AND THAT PARA 4 WAS UNSATISFACTORY IN HIS VIEW SINCE IT SUGGESTS LEGISLATION TO CONTROL THE MEDIA.

6. ROBERTSON SAID THAT, DEPENDING UPON CONSULTATIONS AMONG CONCERNED COUNTRIES, CANADIANS WOULD MAKE DECISION ON HOW TO PROCEED. HE SAID THAT IF PUSH COMES TO SHOVE, AND THE DRAFT DECLARATION COMES TO A VOTE, MIN EXTAFF MACEACHEN WOULD HAVE TO MAKE THE FINAL DECISION. IT COULD BE, HE ADDED, THAT CANADIANS WOULD CHOOSE TO VOTE FOR UNOBJECTIONABLE PROVISIONS WHILE VOTING AGAINST ONLY THOSE WHICH ARE UNACCEPTABLE. DUEMLING

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